

BLUAC Steering Committee
April 28, 2005 Minutes

Co Chairman Denise Lang called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM. Minutes of the April 21, 2005 meeting were read and approved as read.

Old Business:

Elna Darrow reported on the software for tabulating the Bigfork Survey. Paul Guerrant has put together a document that outlines tabulation rules and assumptions to help clear up questions regarding the survey. Shelley Gonzales will have a count on returned surveys next week. She asked for a BLUAC member to join her at the U. S. Post Office on Saturday, April 30, 2005, to make an official count of surveys returned. Clarice Ryan will bring this up at the BLUAC meeting scheduled for 4:00 PM today. The Postmaster will make the conference room available for tabulation. Shelley also reported that there is approximately \$3,000 in the bank account, after making the donation to Bethany Lutheran Church.

Members asked if the Steering Committee would continue to meet at the Bethany Lutheran Church. Carol Venable made the motion that we continue to meet at the church. Shelley Gonzales seconded the motion. Motion passed. Sue Hanson will contact the church to ask if that would be possible on a long-term basis and report back to the committee.

Bob Keenan reported that nothing of relevance to Bigfork had happened in the last legislative session. He explained that he had been asked to carry Senate Bill 411 which is a law modeled after Idaho law which maintains jurisdiction over placement of billboard in areas not regulated by federal highways. He said the bill would have had the largest impact on Missoula.

Keenan reported that two items had been removed from the BLUAC agenda for this afternoon. The two were the request for a Conditional Use Permit in Eagle Bend Yacht Harbor Marina and H and H Development request for a PUD. The two items on the agenda are a Conditional Use Permit request by Brooke Johnston to expand the existing Echo Lake Mini Storage and a request by Thomas Peterson to change the Master Plan from Agricultural to Rural Residential on Hanging Rock Drive.

Clarice Ryan offered comments on Amy Royer's presentation on Conservation Easements. It is her opinion that many of the conservations easements will open the door to litigation for families and their heirs. She feels that it is very risky to commit to a conservation easement in perpetuity. She would like to make a presentation that identifies the dangers of these easements. The committee will schedule this presentation in the near future.

New Business:

Tony Sagami informed the Steering Committee that he will present a proposal to BLUAC to ask that Doug Averill be removed as chairman of the Steering Committee for two causes: 1-Averill has a conflict of interest and 2-Averill discriminates against minorities. Tony was reminded that the procedure was to present the matter to the Steering Committee for discussion and resolution. He refused and repeated that it was his intention to present this to BLUAC today.

JoAn Colby reported on events taking place at the Ferndale Airport. She said there were many rumors that the airport would be paved, have night lighting, etc. She learned today that a new bill has been passed affecting airports that would relate to Ferndale Airport. The bill goes into effect on July 1, 2005. The bill enables community input to be considered in the running of a rural airport. The homeowners around the airport are in communication and will look into the logistics of a community plan for the airport. The airstrip was signed over to Flathead County by the owner in 1989.

Elna Darrow made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ann Guerrant seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM

Sue Hanson, Secretary